



## Texas Department of Public Safety Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

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<b>Event Name</b>	Potential Winter Weather
<b>Date</b>	January 8, 2015
<b>Time</b>	1500
<b>Operational Period</b>	January 8, 2015
<b>Report Number</b>	#3

<b>Regions Affected</b>	
<b>DPS Regions Affected</b>	Statewide
<b>DDCs Active</b>	DDCs are actively monitoring weather conditions.

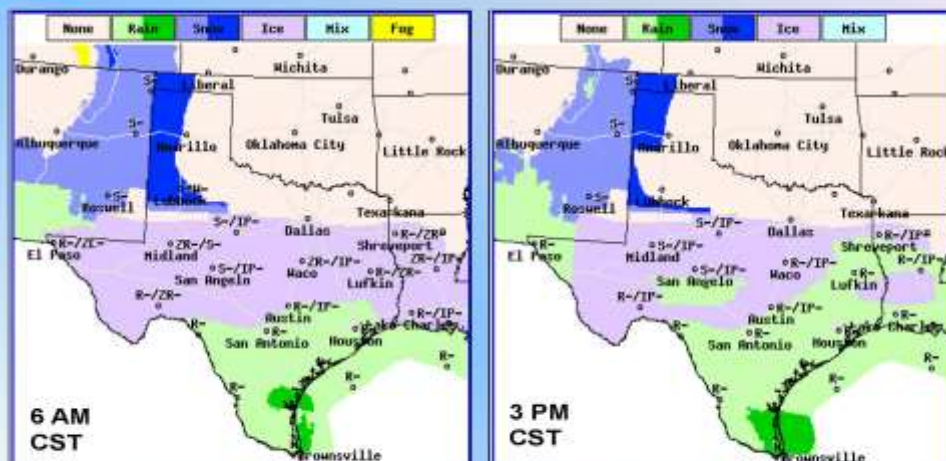
### STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:

Yesterday's Arctic cold front helped to produce freezing drizzle in Far West Texas overnight and this morning. The threat for sleet/rain/freezing remains for the Permian Basin, Hill Country, North and North Central Texas Friday into Saturday and possibly into Sunday morning. On Saturday and Sunday the area for some freezing precipitation is forecast to impact the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Due to below freezing temperatures in East and South East Texas, freezing rain could develop as far east as the Houston area Saturday night into Sunday morning. Because of forecast light freezing precipitation, no power impacts are anticipated at this time.

A partial activation of the State Operations Center (SOC) is scheduled for 8AM Friday, January 9, 2015, in order to provide an immediate response capability to respond to requests for assistance from local jurisdictions and coordinate state resources that may be needed. The SOC will increase its activation level to *Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)* at that time.



## Weather Type Friday



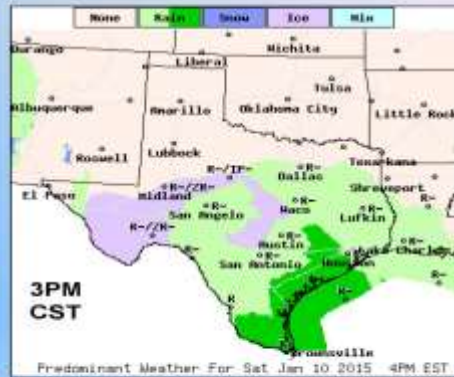
## Friday



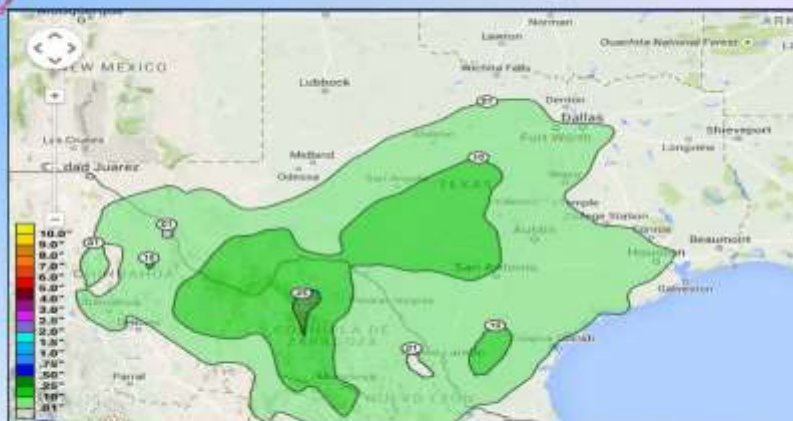
**"Worst Case" Ice Accumulations on Friday**

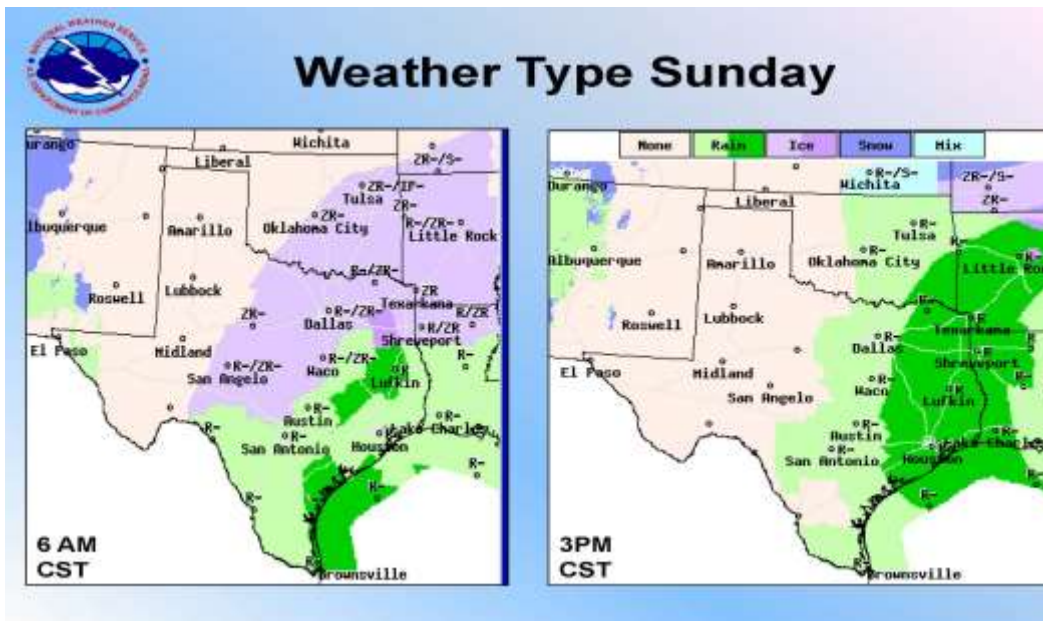


## Weather Type Saturday



## Saturday



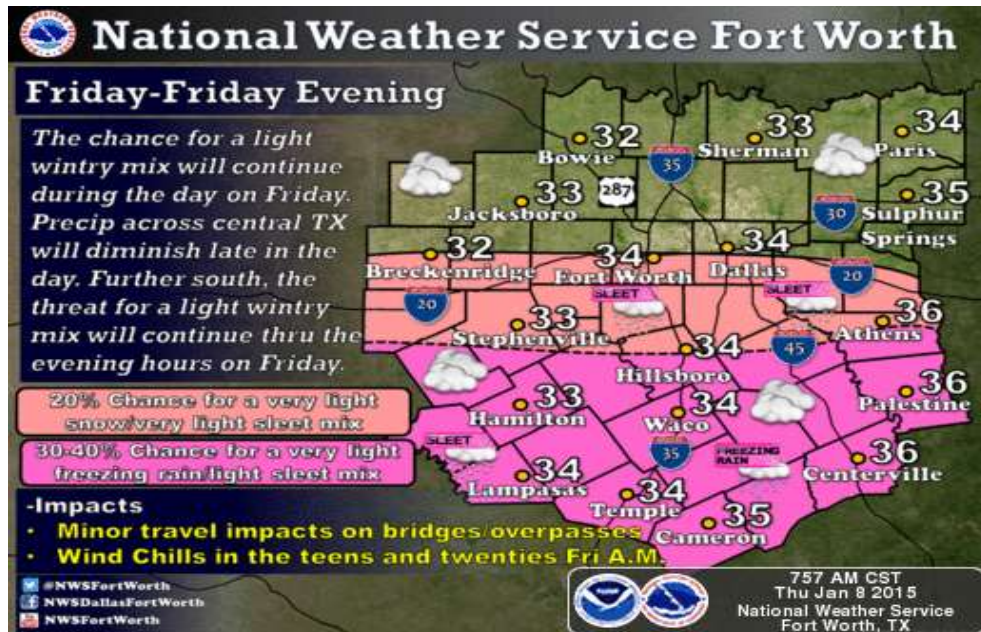


## Region 1

**NWS Fort Worth:** The chance for a light wintry mix will exist primarily south of the Interstate Highway (IH) 20 Corridor. The wintry mix will likely consist of very light sleet, very light snow and/or very light freezing rain. Minor travel impacts may occur on bridges/overpasses. The best chance for travel impacts will be south of a Comanche to Hillsboro to Athens line. Temperatures through midnight tonight will fall into the mid-20s and mid-30s. There will be a slight chance for a light wintry mix along and south of the IH20 Corridor on Friday as a cold front pushes southward across the region. No significant accumulations of snow/ice are expected, but there may be minor travel impacts mainly south of the IH20 Corridor. North winds of 15 to 20 mph will result in wind chill readings in the teens and twenties on Friday morning. The better chance for precipitation will shift south of the IH20 Corridor late in the day on Friday. There will be a chance for light wintry precipitation during the evening hours on Saturday through the early



morning hours on Sunday across a good deal of North and Central Texas. No significant travel impacts are expected, but minor travel issues may develop on elevated surfaces. Areas south of a Cameron to Athens line will likely see a cold rain as temperatures gradually warm above "freezing". Precipitation across all of North/Central Texas will gradually changeover to just a cold rain as temperatures continue to rise during the day on Sunday.





**NWS Shreveport:** Scattered areas of light freezing rain and sleet will be possible through mid-morning Friday across southwest sections of East Texas south of IH20 before temperatures climb above freezing and the precipitation changes over to rain. Patchy ice on bridges and overpasses cannot be ruled out south of a Nacogdoches to Hemphill, Texas line should this precipitation affect these areas while temperatures are below freezing. Another round of freezing rain is expected to develop Saturday night, especially over Northeast Texas north of IH20. At this time, ice accumulations of up to .10 of an inch will be possible through Sunday morning, with lighter ice accumulations possible farther south to the IH20 Corridor of East Texas, extending east into northwest Louisiana. Some ice accumulations are possible on bridges and overpasses, trees and power lines late Saturday night through Sunday morning before the icy threat ends during the afternoon.





## Region 2

**NWS Houston/Galveston:** Expect increasing cloudiness with much colder temperatures today across Southeast Texas. Freezing rain may be possible across northern counties of the forecast area with increasing rain chances when temperatures are near freezing Friday morning. We will be monitoring forecast trends and issue advisories/warnings as needed. Freezing rain may also be possible again Saturday morning over the northern counties as rain chances increase. There is still some uncertainty on how far south this may actually occur, so be sure to keep up with the forecast if you have travel plans this weekend.

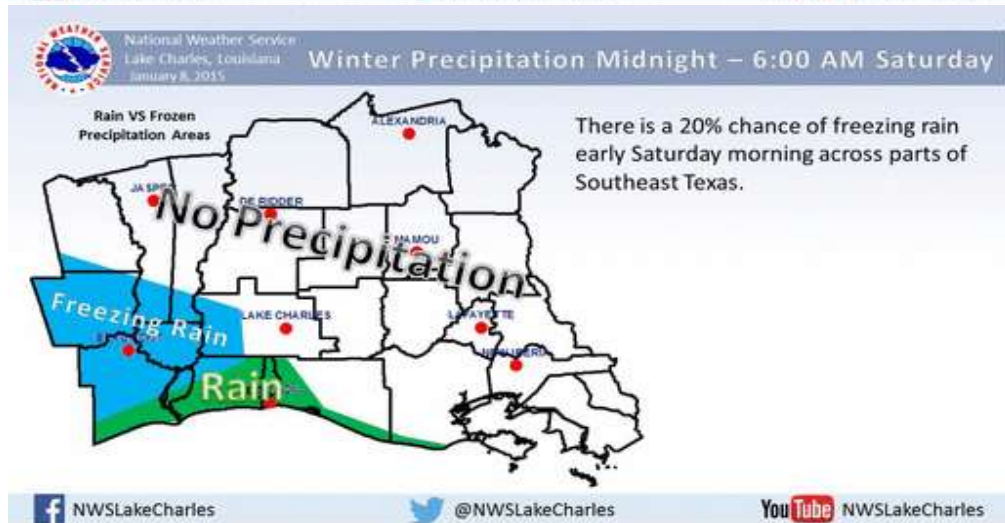
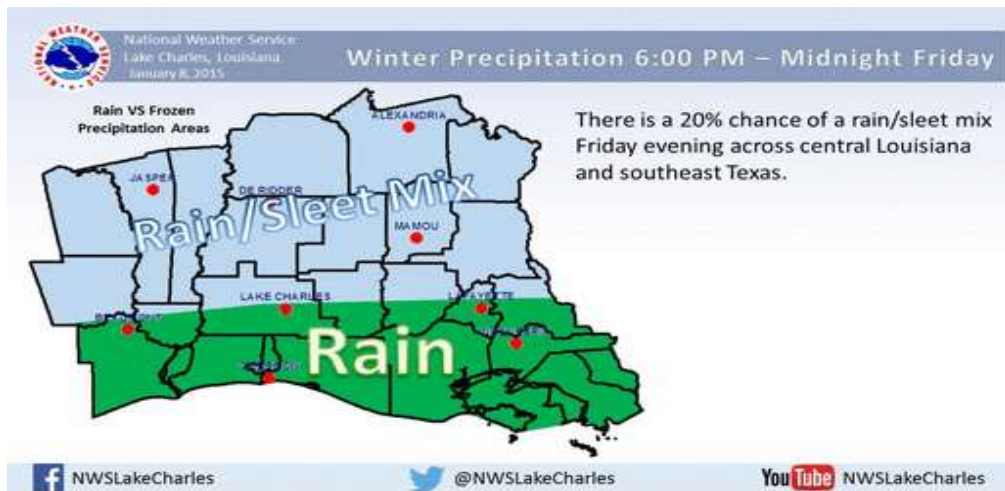
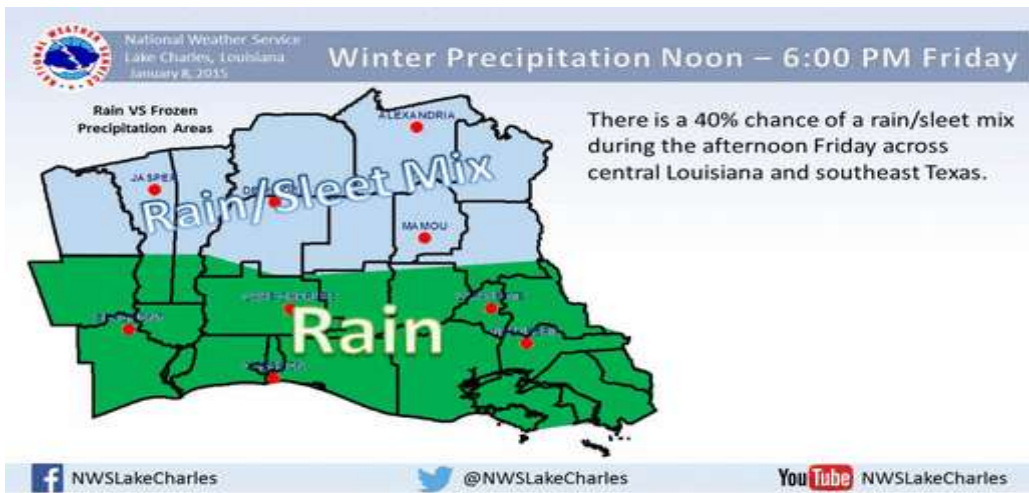


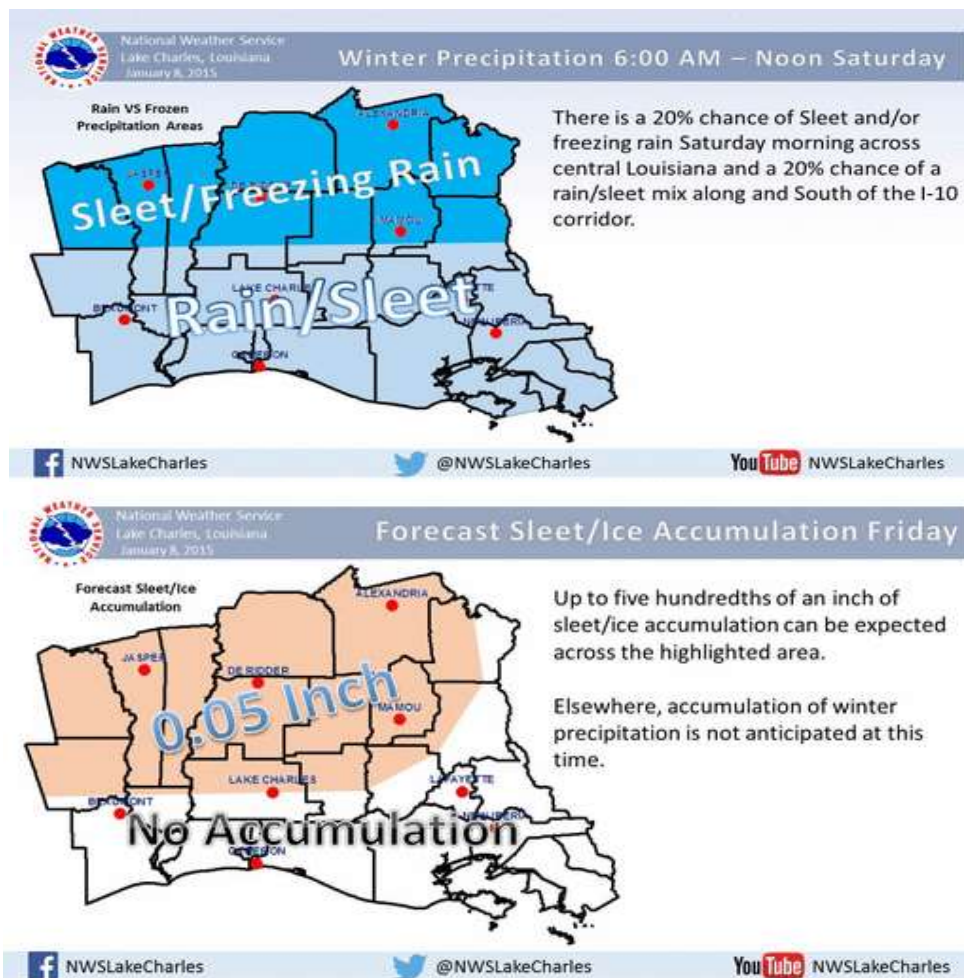


**NWS Lake Charles:** There is a 40% chance of a sleet/rain mix across Southeast Texas on Friday beginning around 3AM. As temperatures begin to warm Friday areas along and south of the IH10 Corridor transition to a cold rain; however, areas north will still possibly fall as freezing precipitation. By Friday evening precipitation decrease to 20%, but any precipitation that falls north of IH10 will be a sleet/rain mix. A chance of freezing rain will be possible on Saturday north of IH10 and a cold rain will continue south of IH10. Ice accumulation of .05" is possible in impacted areas.









### DDC 15 Beaumont (Includes Hardin, Orange and Jefferson Counties)

DDC 15 and jurisdictions within the DDC area of responsibility are closely monitoring weather situations. A weather briefing was conducted by the National Weather Service, Lake Charles at the monthly mutual aid group meeting Wednesday. At that time, there was less than a 20% chance of rain/freezing rain/sleet mix forecast for Saturday morning. A weather conference call with updated weather information is scheduled for Thursday afternoon. Local jurisdictions are reviewing their plans and resources. The City of Beaumont reached out to TxDOT to meet Friday morning to discuss any potential impacts over the weekend to roads and a plan for a coordinated response if necessary. At this time, there are no warming centers scheduled to be opened. The Salvation Army maintains normal operations of their shelter. DDC 15 has no plans at this time to increase its level of readiness.

### Region 3

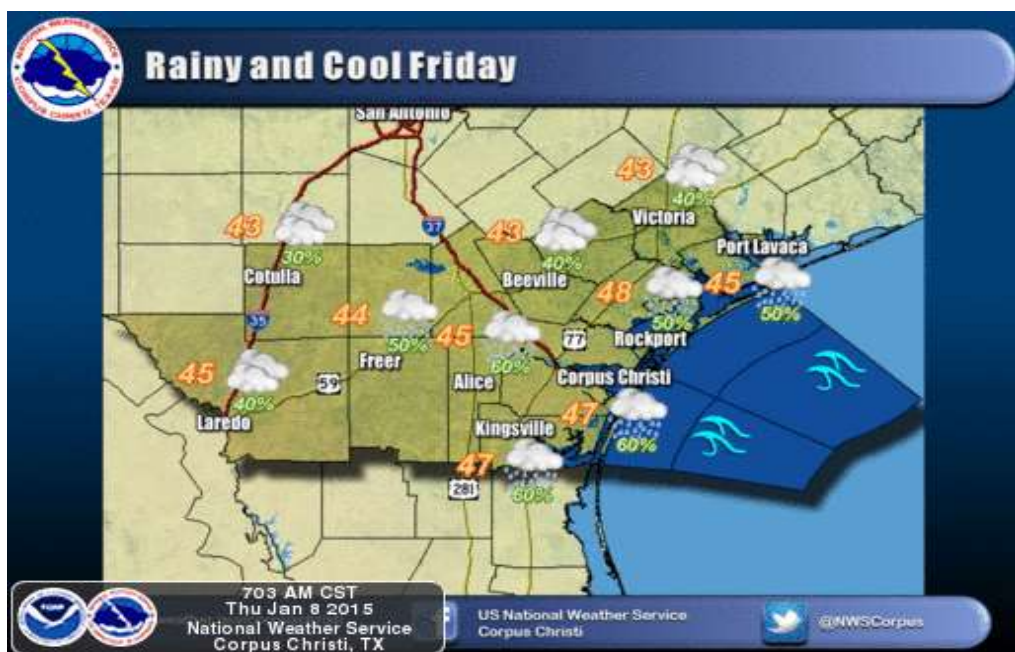
**NWS Brownsville:** In the wake of yesterday's cold front, a cold day can be expected across the region today, with temperatures only warming into the lower to mid-40s. Cloudy to mostly cloudy skies will prevail keeping the day gray. Any patchy drizzle or light rain that develops today will favor the lower Valley and the adjacent coastal waters. North winds of 15 to 25 mph this morning will diminish to 10 to 20 mph this afternoon, with the strongest winds remaining across the coastal counties. The north winds combined with the cold temperatures to make it feel even

colder. "Feels like" temps were in the upper 20s to mid-30s this morning. Be sure to bundle up when heading out today.



**NWS Corpus Christi:** Temperatures today were much cooler than yesterday's. Expect mostly cloudy skies today, with highs only reaching into the low to mid 40s across the region. Tonight will be slightly warmer than last night/early this morning. Freezing temperatures are not forecast for tonight, with lows in the mid to upper 30s across much of the region. Cool and cloudy conditions continue for tomorrow, with highs only reaching into the mid to upper 40s. A coastal trough will develop Friday, with light rain possible throughout the day across the region. Northeast flow will increase on Friday, and small craft advisory conditions may be possible on Friday afternoon. The combination of cold temperatures, a coastal trough developing southeast of Corpus Christi, and an approaching upper level disturbance will bring a cold rain to the area Friday night through Saturday night. With temperatures approaching the freezing mark early Saturday morning, there is a chance for some light freezing rain or drizzle over extreme western and northern portions of South Texas, generally near and north of a Botines (north of Laredo) to George West to Victoria line. The best chance for this wintry rainfall will be between 2AM and noon Saturday. Accumulations, if any would be 0.01 inches or less. A cold rain is expected farther south and east. After lows in the 30s on Saturday morning, highs on Saturday will only be in the upper 30s to lower/mid 40s closer to the coast. The upper low will begin to exit the area by Sunday, diminishing the chances for rain, bringing less clouds and slightly warmer temperatures for Sunday. Highs on Sunday will be from near 50 to the mid-50s.







#### Region 4

**NWS El Paso:** Cold air at the surface may lead to some areas of freezing drizzle this morning. Temperatures warmed midday and the threat of freezing drizzle ended, with a slight chance of only light rain this afternoon. However, high temperatures will be about 10 to 15 degrees below normal.



**NWS Midland/Odessa:** Patchy freezing drizzle is expected this morning, from the Guadalupe Mountains southeast to the Davis and Apache Mountains. Freezing rain and freezing drizzle will be possible this morning over the Presidio Valley, Marfa Plateau, Big Bend area, and lower Trans Pecos. A wintry mix of freezing rain and sleet will be possible tonight, mainly north of IH10. A little snow may be mixed in over southeast New Mexico. Total ice accumulations through tonight are expected to be less than 1/10", but hazardous driving conditions can be



anticipated wherever ice accumulates. Little or no snow accumulation is expected. A Winter Storm Watch is in effect for the Davis Mountains, Presidio Valley, Marfa Plateau, Big Bend and lower Trans Pecos for a wintry mix Friday night and Saturday. A *High Wind Watch* is in effect from late this evening through Friday morning for the Guadalupe Mountains, where northeast winds are forecast to be 35 to 45 mph with gusts as high as 65 mph.



**NWS San Angelo:** An upper-level storm system will bring a chance for a wintry mix of mainly freezing rain, freezing drizzle, and sleet to West Central Texas Friday into the weekend. Uncertainty remains in the forecast, but at this time accumulations are expected to be mostly light. However, it doesn't take much ice accumulation for dangerous driving conditions to develop. We encourage everyone to stay tuned for updated information in the upcoming days. For tonight, some light mixed precipitation may develop overnight, as another cold front moves south across West Central Texas. At this time, we only have a slight chance for precipitation to develop, because of dry air in the lower levels of the atmosphere. If any precipitation develops, we expect it to be in the form of sleet and light freezing rain.

### Wintry Mix Possible Fri/Sat

A light wintry mix of mainly freezing rain, freezing drizzle, and sleet is possible.

**Timing:**  
Friday morning, on Saturday, and late Saturday night and early Sunday morning.

**Potential Impacts:**  
Icy conditions may develop, especially on bridges and elevated surfaces.

Any ice accumulations should be light. However, dangerous driving conditions may develop. Stay tuned for updated information.

556 AM CST  
Thu Jan 8 2015  
National Weather Service  
San Angelo, TX





#### DDC 08 El Paso (Includes El Paso & Hudspeth Counties)

**El Paso County:** The El Paso Office of Emergency Management activated the El Paso City/County EOC at 0330 this morning. American Red Cross (ARC), The Salvation Army (TSA), school districts, utility companies, city public works, and county roads and bridges were made aware of the upcoming weather and will be on standby. TxDOT TransVista Emergency Operations Center will remain activated at a monitoring level until Saturday morning, due to possible precipitation and freezing temperatures forecast for the evening and overnight hours Friday into Saturday morning. TxDOT is treating IH10 from Mile Marker (MM) 94 to MM 108 due to light drizzle. Roads to IH10/IH20 split are clear. One minor accident was reported with no injuries. All roads remain passable at this time. With the exception of two, school districts delayed opening due to the potential for freezing rain and black ice, and Fort Bliss delayed opening until 10AM. Texas Highway Patrol will rotate personnel in order to have one THP officer at TransVista throughout activation. There are no needs or requests for assistance.

**Hudspeth County:** Hudspeth County will be monitoring the weather situation and has a warming center on standby at Sierra Blanca High School, 500 North Sierra Blanca Avenue. ARC and TSA are prepared to assist at the warming centers upon request. Hudspeth ISD is on normal schedule.

#### DDC 09 Fort Stockton (Includes Loving, Ward, Crane, Reeves, Upton, Pecos and Terrell Counties)

**Pecos County:** Pecos County will have a shelter on standby for the upcoming winter weather expected. The shelter is located at the First Baptist Church, 400 North Texas, Ft. Stockton, Texas 79735. The County will be moving 150 cots/blankets from Terrell County to Pecos County before this weekend.

**Reeves County:** Reeves County will be available to open a shelter if needed; however, they will not have personnel on standby. No unmet needs or requests.

#### DDC 09 Midland (Includes Gaines, Dawson, Borden, Andrews, Martin, Howard, Winkler, Ector, Midland, and Glasscock Counties)

A poll of the area reveals that there are no shelters or warming shelters currently open. All areas are aware of the next wave of winter weather heading our way and they are monitoring it

closely. Should the need for a shelter to be opened arise, they could open one on short notice. With very few exceptions, Oncor is reporting that almost all of the residential power has been restored in the area. None of the 240 distribution crews, 120 vegetation crews or 20 bull dozer crews have been released as of today.

## Region 5

**NWS Lubbock:** After a brief warm-up into the 40s and 50s today, yet another cold front will surge through the South Plains region this evening and tonight. Temperatures will only top out in the upper 20s to low 30s with breezy northeast winds. Additionally, an upper level disturbance approaching from the southwest will promote slim chances for a little light snow and occasional flurries across the South Plains and far Southwest Panhandle into the Southern Rolling Plains. Accumulations, if any, are expected to remain very light.



### **DDC 03 Wichita Falls (Includes Hardeman, Baylor, Cottle, Foard, Wilbarger, Wichita, Archer, Clay, Montague, Jack and Young Counties)**

DDC 3 Wichita Falls will closely monitor the situation and maintain communication with local jurisdictions, state and voluntary agencies. Cots and blankets are pre-positioned in the eleven counties of the Wichita Falls Disaster District. American Red Cross (ARC) has shelters identified in each county/city and is prepared to open them if necessary. In the event shelters open, 2-1-1 is prepared to provide shelter information and locations. Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) crews are preparing plows and spreaders and will pre-treat bridges, overpasses and elevated structures as necessary. The Salvation Army (TSA) located at 403 Seventh Street in Wichita Falls has expanded their hours to remain open 24 hours due to extreme winter temperatures. Currently, there are no unmet needs or requests for assistance.

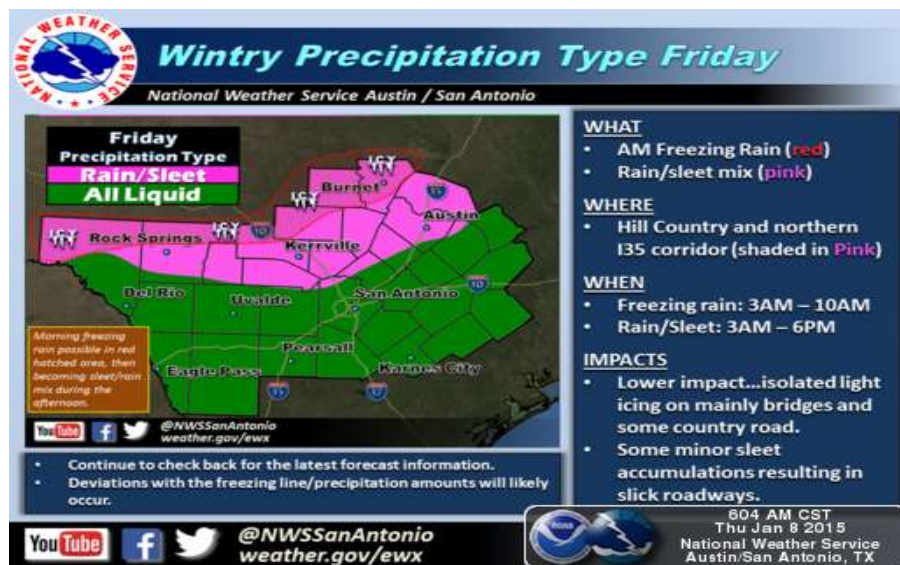
### **DDC 07 Abilene (Includes Kent, Stonewall, Haskell, Throckmorton, Scurry, Fisher, Jones, Shackelford, Stephens, Mitchell, Nolan, Taylor, Callahan, Eastland, Runnels, Coleman, Brown and Comanche Counties)**

DDC 7 Abilene will closely monitor the situation and maintain communication with local jurisdictions, state and voluntary agencies. Cots and blankets are pre-positioned throughout the district. American Red Cross has shelters identified in each county/city and is prepared to open them if necessary. Local faith-based groups throughout the area will provide shelter as

needed. In the event shelters open, 2-1-1 is prepared to provide shelter information and locations. TxDOT crews are preparing plows and spreaders and will pre-treat bridges, overpasses and elevated structures beginning this evening and continuing through Thursday morning. The Salvation Army located at 1726 Butternut in Abilene has expanded their hours to remain open 24 hours due to extreme winter temperatures.

## Region 6

**NWS Austin/San Antonio:** Friday will begin with freezing rain potential mainly in the northern Hill Country resulting in light accumulations of ice on elevated surfaces. The freezing rain will then transition into a mixture of sleet and liquid rain and span from the Hill Country into the northern IH35 Corridor. No additional accumulations are expected. Friday night into Saturday, freezing rain and sleet will return to the forecast and span most of South Central Texas. Minor accumulations of ice will again be possible, with the greatest threat for accumulations being the area outlined in red. Icing on bridges and country roads will be possible there while elsewhere, only minor ice accumulations, mainly on elevated surfaces, will be possible. The last round of freezing rain will be Sunday morning. This time the freezing rain area will be confined to the northern Hill Country. We are expecting the freezing rain again to be light, and light icing impacts to be possible on country roads and bridges.







**DDC 11/23 Waco (Includes Bosque, Hill, Freestone, Hamilton, Mills, Coryell, Limestone, McLennan, San Saba, Lampasas, Bell, Falls and Milam Counties)**

DDC Waco is actively monitoring conditions and any impacts. This includes communications via state conference calls, local conference calls, and direct interaction with TxDOT and local jurisdictions. TxDOT Waco District has begun pre-treating IH35 with salt brine. United States (US) 190 and State Highway (SH) 6 will be monitored and treated as personnel and materials are available. Additional sites have been located by Texas Highway Patrol (THP) personnel and will be communicated with TxDOT for additional treatment if supplies are available.

**Bell County:** The following warming stations/shelters are located within the county at the following locations:

**City of Temple** – Transformation Station, 503 East Central Avenue (men) remains in operation from 5PM to 9AM.

**City of Killeen** - Killeen Community Center, 2201 East Veterans Memorial Boulevard remains in operation.

**STATE AGENCY REPORTS  
TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
RESPONDING AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS**

**Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)** - District Coordinators have been coordinating with state agencies, voluntary agencies, and local jurisdictions as needed.

**Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD):** TPWD Game Wardens in all regions have been alerted to potential winter weather and are standing by and monitoring.

**Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT):** TxDOT crews began pre-treatment of roads and bridges. In West Texas, crews are treating roadways which may have icy conditions.

**American Red Cross (ARC):** The ARC has shelters identified in each county/city in DDC 03 Wichita Falls and DDC 07 Abilene and is prepared to open them if necessary.

**The Salvation Army (TSA):** TSA located at 403 Seventh Street in Wichita Falls has expanded its hours to a 24-hour operation due to extreme winter temperatures. They also have expanded their hours to a 24-hour operation at 1726 Butternut in Abilene, due to extreme winter temperatures.

**2-1-1 Information Referral Hotline:** 2-1-1 is prepared to provide shelter information and locations where needed.

**FINAL COMMENTS:** The State Operations Center (SOC) held a winter weather conference call with the National Weather Service and State agency representatives at 10AM this morning. Additional conference calls will be scheduled as needed. The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed. The SOC will increase its activation level to Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions) effective at 8AM tomorrow morning.

**The four levels of SOC activation are:**

Level I (Emergency Conditions)  
Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)  
Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)  
Level IV (Normal Conditions)

*This Situation Report can be found on the DEM Homepage at: [www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem)*

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